

Heartline

Keeping in touch with the heart of the Richfield United Methodist Church faith community.

2022
January / February



A FRESH WORSHIP SERIES TO KICK OFF 2022 "FIRST THING FIRST"

A new year brings new opportunities to live our faith everywhere. When we let our faith lead how we make our decisions, we put God first - including before our desires. Putting God first can also trade feelings of panic - one has so many things to do they don't know what to do next - for feelings of urgency - it's time to put the first thing first. By first doing no harm, then doing good, and all along the way staying in love with God, may you live a life that reflects the love of God to everyone you meet. This worship series is supplemented by the book *Three Simple Rules* by Bishop Reuben Job. Pick up a free copy at the Christmas Eve worship services or throughout the January worship series, "First Thing First," available in regular and large print on campus while supplies last.

Please read the following chapters before worship:

January 2 Preface/Introduction, pages 7-18

January 9 Do No Harm, pages 19-32

January 16 Do Good, pages 33-50

January 23 Stay in Love with God, pages 51-64

ALL-CHURCH BOOK STUDY: "THREE SIMPLE RULES"

Sundays in January beginning January 9, 10:40 am -11:15 am
In-person and Online via Zoom. Please see details on page 4.

Worship each Sunday at 9:30 am.

You can worship in-person, online at youtube.com/richfieldumc, or by touchtone phone, 1-888-650-5835.

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I recently tried making a mental list of all the changes I've experienced since March, 2020. I'd also weigh if it was a temporary change or a seemingly permanent change, or even a change that had another change come after it. I also tried to think of which changes were thrust upon me and which I had all or at least some control over. Eventually, I had to stop. The list was too long and complex. It has been a year (or two!) of changes and there's only one thing that is in my control in all of it: my attitude.

People have probably heard me say this one before, a phrase I picked up from the book *Switch: How to Change Things When Change Is Hard* by Chip and Dan Heath: it's not that change is inevitable or change is hard, it's that change is possible. When I go through life remembering every day brings the possibility of change, I am also reminded the ever-present God is with me in the midst of that change. It doesn't mean all change is easy or exciting, but it does remind me not all change is bad.

In the 1980s, a public health professor at Harvard, Jay Winsten, learned about the concept of a "designated driver" while in northern Europe. He hadn't heard this term used in the US before, and he and his team set out to make a change. Their method? Work with TV productions to have characters talk about - or even take on - the role of a designated driver. These weren't "a very special episode," but simply five seconds of dialogue. By 1991, three years after this effort started, nine out of ten Americans knew the term "designated driver." 37% of all Americans said they'd served as the designated driver. 54% of frequent drinkers caught a ride home from a designated driver. And alcohol-related vehicle crash fatalities went from over 23,000

in 1988 to under 18,000 in 1992. This change saved lives.

I bring this up because as we step into 2022, a year which I hope brings you more joy than sorrow and more excitement than mundane, we also step into a year of change. It may be the year the pandemic finally makes a tremendous turn. It may be the year we do that paperwork or address that relationship or make an appointment to get help. It may be the year our church makes big decisions through our various MCCI taskforces. And it very well may be the year we embrace the attitude that change is possible.

As your pastor, I encourage you to pray and reflect on what holy healthy habits you want to make a priority in your life. We've all built up 22+ months of habits and a new year is a good time to reflect to ask ourselves: are these the habits we want? If so, how do we continue them on purpose, duplicate them, or build upon them? And if not, how do we make the change on purpose, pick a different way, build ourselves in a new direction? This trio of prayer, reflection, and action is the sort of thing that made John and Charles Wesley and their circle of students at Oxford be known as "Methodists." They were constantly praying and reflecting on how they were living their Christian lives and when it was time for a course correction, they took action and sought a new method. Perhaps this is your year for new discipleship methods, too.

Finally, when you take your first steps of change, do yourself a big favor: be kind to yourself! When animal trainers teach animals tricks they use rewards, not punishment. On the first day someone trains a monkey to ride a skateboard, the monkey doesn't get punished for not getting on the skateboard. The monkey gets a piece of mango for not going bananas when the trainer puts the skateboard in its cage. You deserve kindness, too!

In Christ,
Rev. Nate Melcher
Senior Pastor



MCCI UPDATE: STAY INFORMED AND BE INVOLVED

The MCCI Report was approved on November 21, 2021 and next steps are already underway. Taskforces are being assembled, surveys are being created, and trajectory is being mapped out. This is an exciting time in the life of the church, one in which we get to intentionally explore who we are and reach out to new people with organization, fresh ideas, and renewed vigor. You can read the report (richfieldumc.org/mcci and in-print on campus) and get involved today. Thank God we are in this together!

REV. HOPE: CHANGE OF APPOINTMENT

Rev. Hope Hutchison will transition from a 0.5 half-time to a 0.75 three-quarter time appointment with Richfield UMC on January 1, 2022. Her new title is Director of CYF & Outreach Ministries ("CYF" is a fancy church acronym for "Children, Youth, and Family" ministries) and her responsibilities will expand to build a "cradle through graduation" trajectory for children and youth ministry and work with the Church & Society Team to organize and implement our missional outreach systems. Rev. Hope has been a stalwart presence with the youth group since she arrived at the church in 2019 and she has passion and experience with outreach ministry. This change of appointment was recommended by SPRC, affirmed by the Finance Team, approved by the Appointive Cabinet of the Minnesota Annual Conference, and approved by action of the Ad Board at charge conference. Please congratulate Rev. Hope and may we grow in ministry and love of God together!



ONLINE-ONLY WORSHIP ON DECEMBER 26

youtube.com/richfieldumc or 888.650.5835
Holiday weekends such as the Sunday after Christmas have historically low worship attendance. Meanwhile, we have had meaningful worship experiences online and this worship format continues to have value. In this transition time of regathering, we will give our hard-working servant volunteers a break and worship on December 26 only online and by touch tone phone. After this long season of distanced worship from necessity, we will experiment with distanced worship with intentionality. Please do not come to campus that day and thank you for your grace

WORSHIP REGATHERING UPDATE

The Regathering Taskforce meets regularly to examine our pandemic restrictions and changes. We are in a mixed season right now. Cases are on the rise, there are new variants, and more unknowns. And yet, over 200 million Americans are vaccinated, many children are now eligible, and the members of this church have been excellent at following protocols together. In the meantime, the taskforce continues to monitor the recommendations of the Minnesota Annual Conference, Minnesota Department of Health, and Center for Disease Control and Prevention. Your patience, diligence, and cooperation is what has helped your church thrive in pandemic times, thank you.

YOUR STORIES: DO NO HARM, DO GOOD, STAY IN LOVE WITH GOD

Do you have a great story where you experienced or heard about these three simple rules being practiced in the world? Pastor Nate wants to hear from you! Your story may end up in a sermon or article to inspire others to seek God in their lives. Please send your story to breakthroughstories@richfieldumc.org or fill out a "Breakthrough Story" card at the Community Table.

CHURCH CONFERENCE ON JANUARY 30

Sunday, January 30 at 10:35 am in-person and by [Zoom](#)

Meeting ID: 881-3166-5678, Passcode: 5835 or call in: 312-626-6799 (standard rates apply)

There will be a church conference after worship to receive reports and approve the 2022 operations budget. You may attend and vote in-person or online by Zoom. RSVPs aren't necessary. All worshippers and members are invited, and worshippers have vote.

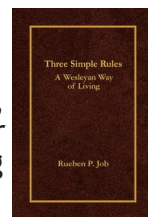
ALL-CHURCH BOOK STUDY: "THREE SIMPLE RULES"

Sundays in January beginning January 9, 10:40 am -11:15 am

In-person and Online via Zoom. Gail Johnson and Rev. Nate Melcher will co-lead a brief, book study on *Three Simple Rules* by Bishop Reuben Job. The study will take place after worship on Sundays, January 9, 16, and 23 in the Heritage Room and on Zoom. Reading recommended, not required, walk-ins welcome!

Zoom Meeting ID: 819 9039 0338; Passcode: 5835; Call In: 312-626-6799.

Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81990390338?pwd=UzMrS3lTWXFOT2VtMG5JOG1WclRYdz09>



CONFLUX: A ONE-YEAR WORSHIP SERIES SEPTEMBER 12, 2021 - MAY 29, 2022

The CONFLUX worship series is made of 7 miniseries that honor the seasons of the church such as Advent and Lent while exploring several themes in the overture of our lives. The series explores what we the church can do when we are at our best: grow in love of God and neighbor, reach new people, and put our faith into action to heal a broken world. Spiritual practices, events, and media will help bring your weekend worship experience into your weekday living with prayer, journaling, daily devotionals, book studies, and video series to watch at your own pace. Get started at richfieldumc.org/ministries/amplify/.



Church Is a People
Overture
Nativity Now
First Thing First
Legacy
Unafraid
X Marks the Spot

Be a church of people who rely on God and each other.
Celebrate the themes that bring us closer to God's dream.
Share the gift of Jesus with hope, peace, joy, and love.
Live a life that reflects the love of God to everyone you meet.
Remember the past, see the present, build the future.
Break away from worry and fear, live with courage and hope.
Follow a road map that crosses paths with the Holy Spirit.

Each worship experience features a wide variety of Spirit-filled music, inclusive and justice-centered liturgy, meaningful interactive moments, and preaching that connects scripture with everyday living. Worship together on Sundays at 9:30 am, online at youtube.com/richfieldumc, or by touch tone phone at 888.650.5835. For the latest updates on worship and the life of the church, visit richfieldumc.org. Let us worship the God who loves all people. All are welcome, and all means all.

WINTER WORSHIP SERIES - "LEGACY"

Remember the past, see the present, build the future. We will spend these few weeks between the seasons of Epiphany and Lent considering the world around us and the legacy we inherited. With God's help, we can take what we were given and pass it on with great love and excitement for what those who come after us will do with it. This month will feature a variety of guest preachers and guest musicians to help us expand our scope of new experiences for how others experience God.



JANUARY BIBLE STUDY CHALLENGE

January is a good time to start a good habit. Why not try a Bible study at your pace? Our subscription to Amplify Media (think of it as "Netflix for Churches") gives you access to hundreds of Bible studies, the "Great Courses," and more, with content running from 5, 10, 30, or 60 minutes. Take short sips or long swallows as you deepen your faith at your pace. May Amplify Media be a gateway to daily devotion, reflection, study, and inspiration for you.

To create your Amplify account and access thousands of videos, follow these simple steps:

1. Go to <https://my.amplifymedia.com/richfieldunitedmethodistchurchmi> (The "mi" at the end is from the first two letters in "Minnesota," so yes, that is supposed to be there.)
2. Enter our church's unique access code: HTMZFL
3. Create your own user profile with your name, email, and your own private password. (You will not be charged a fee. Richfield UMC already has the paid subscription that is for all members.)

CALL FOR LENT DEVOTIONAL SUBMISSIONS

This favorite tradition returns as we prepare ourselves holistically for Easter. The Lent daily devotional is written by you and your fellow church members and worshippers. Copies will be available online at richfieldumc.org/devo and in print on campus starting February 27. Daily entries will be posted on the [church's Facebook page](#).

The 2022 Lent theme is "Unafraid." The last two years have brought more mystery than feels comfortable and with that can come feelings of fear, anxiety, and worry. Throughout scripture, we are reminded God is with us and in that promise we need not live in fear. This Lent, let us lean on each other for encouragement.

You are invited to combine your courage and creativity to write a submission for this all-original collection. Maybe you've worked through fears around a certain topic. Perhaps you're still figuring out your worries. Or maybe you've felt God in the midst of anxiety, resolved or not. However you interpret "unafraid," may you share your writing and ideas with your church.

Submission Guidelines:

1. Your reflection, poem, or prayer should be 250 words or less.
2. It must be your own original writing. Sorry, we cannot publish your favorite poem by another writer, no matter how wonderful it is!
3. Submit your writing by Sunday, February 13 to nmelcher@richfieldumc.org.



BORN TO BE GENEROUS

It is never too late to share your estimate of giving for 2022.

If you need a commitment sheet, please contact the church office at rumc@richfieldumc.org or call 612-861-6086. Each of us is called to faithfully participate in the life of the church by our prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness. Your financial support builds sustainable ministry as Richfield UMC. Thank you.



"SOUPER BOWL" FOOD DRIVE FOR VEAP

January 9 - February 13

Healthy, hearty soups is one of the most-needed items for VEAP Food Pantry. This winter, bring your donations of great soups to the church building leading up to the "Souper Bowl" on February 13. You can also join your church in making a special gift to VEAP at richfieldumc.org/give.

Your Church & Society Team encourages you to help stock the VEAP pantry together!

EVERYTHING YOU WANTED TO KNOW ABOUT INDIANS BUT WERE AFRAID TO ASK

A Virtual Book Discussion

Rev. Dawn Hauser, the pastor at Aitkin UMC and Anishinaabe (Ojibwe) with Gail Johnson will lead this three-session discussion of the book, *Everything You Wanted to Know About Indians but Were Afraid to Ask*, by Anton Treuer.

The group meets Mondays, Jan 4, 11, and 18, from 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm CT.

Read more about this event and register to receive the Zoom link to the meetings at

<https://www.minnesotaumc.org/eventdetail/15800600>

MUSIC MINISTRY

We have exciting plans for service music in January and February 2022 at RUMC. Our plans include having very special guests joining us on Sundays: January 16, February 13 and February 27 that will be announced at a later date. In February, we will lift up Black History month.

On January 30, the Twin Cities Gay Men's Chorus, under the direction of Gerald Gursz will provide service music. TCGMC provides its members with rewarding musical performance experiences that celebrate diversity and use music as a way to transform, educate and heal.

Nancy Dierauer, Organist/Music Director

Children

CHILDREN & FAMILY MINISTRIES UPDATES

Rev. Hope Hutchison
Director of CYF & Outreach Ministries
hhutchison@richfieldumc.org



Children First Worship—After many months of waiting, I am excited to say that Children First Worship will be returning on February 6, 2022! This worship service, usually on the first Sunday of the month, is the service where our children lead us in worship alongside adult volunteers. Our children are not only the leaders of our future, they also offer a unique perspective and gifts to lead us in the present! If you are interested in leading alongside children in worship, or if your children have particular jobs they would like to help with, like greeting, reading Scripture, or leading a prayer, please contact Rev. Hope at hhutchison@richfieldumc.org.

Indoor Sunday School—As the weather turns towards winter, we have also come inside for Sunday School. We are having Sunday School downstairs in the Fellowship Hall so that we can play games, and run around while we learn about God and how to love our neighbors! While I am thankful that vaccinations have been opened up to younger children, making indoor Sunday School that much safer, we are still taking precautions to stay safe. Children are required to wear masks while inside, and we are encouraging hand sanitizer and distancing as much as possible. Throughout this, it has been a joy to be in person with our children again, and I look forward to spending more time with them inside this winter!

Children's Ministry Calendar:

- Sunday, January 2: No Sunday School
- Sunday, January 9, 16, 23, 30:
Sunday School in the Fellowship Hall
- Sunday, February 6:
Children First Worship,
No Sunday School
- Sunday, February 13, 20, 27:
Sunday School in the Fellowship Hall

Save the Date: Easter Egg Hunt April 9

With the ever-changing safety conditions surrounding the pandemic, we are not sure if the Easter Egg Hunt will be Drive Thru style again, or an outdoor event. However, one thing we do know is that we will celebrate because nothing can cancel the joy of Easter! Save the date for our Annual Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 9. Details about the event will become available as the safety and weather conditions become clearer.

MUSIC SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY AT RICHFIELD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH THE CHESTER E. AND MARION D. GROTH SCHOLARSHIP

Scholarships will be awarded for tuition for the 2022-2023 school year. Previous recipients are eligible to reapply for the scholarship for up to three additional years or until a Bachelor's Degree is earned, whichever occurs first.

The purpose of this Fund is to award annual post-secondary scholarships for qualified students desiring to matriculate and pursue careers in music education, performance, or music therapy.

These scholarships are made possible by the generous gift of Marion Groth on behalf of her husband, Chester. To be eligible to receive this scholarship, an applicant must:

- Be a graduating high school senior from a Minnesota high school.
- Be entering college as a freshman.

Applications must be received in the church office no later than noon, Friday, February 25, 2022. Applicants will be notified if invited to a finalist audition on March 26, 2022.

For more information and an application form, please contact the church office at 612-861-6086 or check the church website at richfieldumc.org/scholarships. If you know someone who may be interested in this scholarship, please encourage them to apply.

Youth

YOUTH MINISTRY LEADERSHIP TRANSITION

Garrett Johnson has been with the church as Youth Leader since 2018 and he's decided it's time to move on from Richfield UMC at the conclusion of 2021. We are grateful for the care and leadership Garrett has brought in youth group, worship, and community events and we wish him and his family all the best. For at least the first quarter of 2022, Rev. Hope and Pastor Nate will team lead youth ministries. Pastor Nate and SPRC will work on a long-range plan for youth ministry leadership. Please pray for this ministry and consider how you can be involved, thank you.

YOUTH MINISTRY UPDATE FOR 2022

Youth Group Resumes January 12

Wednesdays, 7:30pm-8:30pm in the Youth Room

Join Rev. Hope, Pastor Nate, and your fellow teens and other servant volunteers for an evening of games, guest speakers, video discussion, check-in, and building community together. Please note this shift back to pre-pandemic timing, and thank you!

Confirmation

All-Family Meeting on January 9

Immediately following worship, all Confirmation teens and parents/guardians are invited to a meeting to help us recalibrate. Rev. Hope and Pastor Nate will create at least two options for moving forward on schedule, content, and scope and take feedback. If you have feedback or ideas in the meantime, please contact the clergy team.

A Farewell Letter

It is with all sorts of emotions that I have announced my resignation as the Youth Leader here at RUMC. I am so grateful for the friendships and memories over these past few years. There are so many unforgettable moments, from youth mission trips to dressing like the Easter bunny and welcoming guests to our campus. This has been an experience that has changed my life for the better. I want to thank all of those who have supported our youth programming over the years. I especially want to thank those who volunteered their time to help me run any of our youth activities. Finally, I want to let you all know that even though I am leaving, I leave this place bringing faith, justice, and joy with me onto my next adventures. Thank you for letting me serve alongside you all.

Sincerely, Garrett Johnson



FROM THE PARISH NURSE



TIME FOR LIFE: LEARNING, INSPIRATION, AND FELLOWSHIP FOR EVERYONE

(interim name for Lunch and Learn)

Program: "Trends in Fraud & Identity Theft: A Perfect Storm"

Thursday, January 13th, 1:00-2:00 pm

Note: Online only this month!

Please join us for this valuable presentation from the AARP Fraud Watch Network. Three factors are causing an unprecedented "perfect storm" of vulnerability to fraud and identity theft for the average American: the ongoing pandemic with its uncertainty and isolation, rapid advances in consumer technology, and how consumer protections are not keeping pace with those advances. Now is the time to shift your mindset about your vulnerabilities and how to protect yourself and loved ones. We will learn how to keep a step ahead of the con-artists and their evolving tactics.

Our speaker for this event is Jay Haapala. Jay is Associate State Director of Community Engagement with AARP Minnesota and leads their Fraud Watch Network program which serves to educate consumers about fraud, scams and identity theft. He and AARP Fraud Fighter volunteers have met with hundreds of community groups, law enforcement officials and fraud investigators, continually learning how people are being targeted by these criminals. He has worked and served in the nonprofit sector for 20 years building volunteer programs, and now is doing the same to build a network of Fraud Fighters with AARP.

Date: Thursday, January 13th

Time: 1:00 - 2:00 PM (online via zoom only!)

Zoom link: Online: Meeting ID: 813-2660-1056 Passcode: 5835 OR Call-In: 312-626-6799, then enter Meeting ID and Passcode (standard rates may apply)

Questions: Contact Parish Nurse, Kay Bergeland, at 612-861-6086, or email to kbergeland@richfieldumc.org

Save the Date: Time for LIFE

Thursday, February 10th, 1:00 - 2:00 pm

In-person or online

Program: Stay tuned - an enjoyable program will be announced soon!

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS



The Nelson Family: Tim, Brooke, Aubrey, and Tanner

Our family started attending the church after coming to a few of the children's events and really enjoyed the movie nights and carnival. We don't often make it in person now due to Aubrey and Tanner both being in hockey but we try to come when we can and love the online options.



When first coming to RUMC, I looked for a neighborhood church that is friendly, inclusive and purposeful with a worshipful experience—a choir was a plus (and that they let me sing in it without being a member yet!) Why did I choose to join? It's about time!! I

can also be more deeply involved and feel connected. My interests include singing in the choir, cooking, making bread, and collecting internet recipes. In warmer months, I enjoy cycling, camping, and container pot gardening on my balcony. During the winter months I do different things with textiles like sewing & weaving. I am a part time floral designer at Bachman's, drop by and say hello, I'm near counter 6! I have 4 grown children & 8 grandchildren.

Jen Pacyga



Hello Richfield UMC, We are the Nguyen White family. Hoa is Vietnamese and kept her cultural tradition with her last name. We live near Diamond Lake with our two daughters, Emily and Morgan. Emily is a first grader at Windom Community School and

Morgan is in Pre-K at Pearl Park Recreation Center. Our family enjoys traveling, trying different restaurants and cuisines, and visiting with friends and families. We were first exposed to RUMC by attending the Halloween party in 2019. In 2020 we attended RUMC in person for a few months before the pandemic. We really like Reverend Nate's sermon style and the warm welcomes from Reverend Hope and other members of the church. We also liked the strong focus on children growth and development in God and other community outreach programs at RUMC. We look forward to meeting more people and getting more involved as the pandemic restrictions continue to ease.

Justin, Hoa, Emily and Morgan

THANK YOU PEGGY HAMILTON!

We want to express our deep gratitude to Peggy Hamilton, who for many years, has faithfully called our church bus riders each and every week to see if they will be joining us for worship on Sunday. Not only has this been helpful to keep our church bus running smoothly and efficiently, Peggy has also been a kind and caring voice to these folks which has been a blessing for all. Thank you so much, Peggy, for your important ministry work.

RUMC LIBRARY NEWS

Our library is not a general purpose public library. Its holdings serve the interests of its members and the purposes and mission of our church. That affects the categories into which books are placed, and the number of books in certain categories. One of our larger categories (outside of fiction) is labelled "Devotions." I am planning shortly to divide this section of shelving into two parts: devotions and spiritual growth. Currently, they are both intermixed. Devotions are the practices of humble adoration and confession we make to God. Spiritual Growth is our conscious effort to improve our understanding of who God is, and how we relate and serve God with more purposefulness and consistency. The former is "aimed" at God; the latter for ourselves. There are those in our congregation who tend to each side of this coin with conscientious intent. I hope this is a helpful division for you. This section is at the right-hand side of the texts concerning Biblical study and Christian thought and ethics. Thank you.

Wayne Albertson

SAVE THE DATE: TRUST'S ANNUAL MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. PROGRAM

The program will be on Saturday, January 16 at Living Spirit United Methodist Church, 4501 Bloomington Ave, Minneapolis, MN 55407.

RICHFIELD UMC FOUNDATION AND EDGEWATER EMMANUEL FOUNDATION HAVE MERGED

Some 12 years ago in 2009, Richfield UMC and Edgewater Emmanuel UMC merged together. Within that merger process, the church increased in membership and financial assets, including a Foundation that EEUMC had set up in 1974 similar to our RUMC Foundation. The EE Foundation and the RUMC Foundation have operated independent of each other with separate, different members on both boards since 2009. As time went on, it became apparent the two Foundations were very similar in their purpose to be a “supporting entity” of Richfield UMC to financially support programs and needs other than those provided for in the regular church budget.

I am happy to announce that in November 2021 we officially merged the RUMC Foundation and the EE Foundation into the RUMC Foundation as the final entity. The merger process was heavily discussed with all interested parties making sure we did not miss anything of importance as well as wanting to preserve the original intent of the EE Foundation. We will establish a designated fund within the RUMC Foundation entitled “Mission Outreach” using the EE Foundation funds as the funding source. As the church progresses forward and we have mission needs this is a possible funding source subject to the RUMC Foundation Board approval.

If anybody has any questions or wishes to make a contribution to the newly created Mission Outreach fund, or any of the other funds we have within the RUMC Foundation, please do not hesitate to contact Steve Kirchner or Rev. Nate Melcher. The RUMC Foundation has been created to help assist the church with financial needs over time and any contributions to the RUMC Foundation are Tax deductible subject to the rules of the IRS.

Submitted by Steve Kirchner, Richfield UMC Foundation President

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

The UMW would like to thank everyone who donated and purchased items for the Shopping Sunday and the Bake Sale. We also want to thank everyone for their continuing support of the UMW.

SERMON ARCHIVE NOW ONLINE

richfieldumc.org/sermons

Have a favorite sermon or one you missed or one you want to share? All sermons since June 30, 2019 are listed in chronological order at richfieldumc.org/sermons. Look up a sermon by title, preacher, scripture, or date with “Find in Page” in your web browser. Tap/click the sermon title to go directly to it in the worship archives at youtube.com/richfieldumc. The link may go to where you last left off. If so, use the chapter list in the video description.



MUSIC ARCHIVE NOW ONLINE

richfieldumc.org/music

Have a favorite song or hymn that you want to experience again? All worship music since Palm Sunday on March 28, 2021 is listed in alphabetical order at richfieldumc.org/music. Tap/click the date the piece appeared to go directly to it in the worship archives at youtube.com/richfieldumc. The link may go to where you last left off. If so, use the chapter list in the video description.



ONLINE WORSHIP: CHAPTER NAVIGATION

youtube.com/richfieldumc

Ever wanted to experience a worship hymn, sermon, or prayer again? All elements of worship since Palm Sunday on March 28, 2021 are time coded in the video description as “chapters.” Tap/click the chapter timestamp to skip straight to that chapter. Past worship archives will receive chapter lists soon.

SAVE THE DATE FOR UPCOMING WORSHIP SERVICES:

- Dec. 24 Christmas Eve - Family Service at 4:00 pm,
Traditional Service at 9:00 pm
- Dec. 26 Online-Only Worship
- Jan. 30 Church Conference after worship to approve
the 2022 operating budget
- Mar. 2 Ash Wednesday worship service
- Mar. 13 Daylight Saving Time ends
- Apr. 14 Maundy Thursday
- Apr. 15 Good Friday
- Apr. 17 Easter Sunday

THANK YOU: VEAP!

Thank you for your commitment to our favorite food pantry, VEAP. In 2021, we had multiple food drives that saw us give away 3,621 lbs. of food and over \$1,000 in support of families in need. In 2022, we will continue with more outreach opportunities and do so knowing God has called us to action for those in need.



Meeting Basic Needs.
Building Stronger Communities.

HAPPY JANUARY AND FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

January

Rexi Warner	01	Nakia Neal	19
Devin Teal	03	Steven Gieseke	20
Lynn Borgeson	04	Laura Gilmore	23
Brooke Nelson	06	Hope Hutchison	23
Alex Restemayer	07	Anne Ruona	24
Inez Gustafson	08	Molly Reko	25
Promise Williams	10	Paul Pieper	25
Morgan White	11	Renee Jackson	25
John Wittenborg	12	Hoa Nguyen	25
Terry Bumgarner	13	Phyllis Olson	26
JoAn Hanson	14	Jane Parry	29
Christie Neuger	14	Vicki Sells	29
Jerry Schilling	15	Dave Oliver	29
Gavin Locke	15	Phyllis Killam	30
Ann Johnson	16	Christina Loge	30
Kenzie Lambert	16	Dorothy Holland	31
Dorthea Doty	17		
Liam Knuttila-Tanhoff	18		
Olivia Knuttila-Tanhoff	18		
Beverly Borneman	19		
Win Neuger	19		
Meg Spicher	19		
Maya Mendez-Haines	19		

February

Ron Doncavage	02	Peggy Hamilton	15
Daniella Callahan	03	Jessica Gieseke	16
Devon Olson	04	Bea Melcher	17
Bill Johnson	06	Aubrey Nelson	17
Ron Larson	07	Connie Gillespie	18
Lois Schatschneider	07	Steve Warner	19
Lori Claussen	07	John Watne	20
Cynthia Knutson	07	Betty Friesen	23
Jennifer Teal	09	Sandra Williams	25
Katie Labelle	09	Dorothy DeFreese	26
Taylor Currie	10		
Sharon Gardner	13		
Emily White	13		

AN EVERYDAY PRAYER LIFE IS FOR EVERYONE

May we devote time and energy to God and neighbor and pray every day for:

- Open minds and hearts for “conflux moments.”
- People in need of a loving church home.
- Our church’s journey toward vitality.

Prayers for Healing:

Paula Milani, Marylee Fithian, Maxene Schwanke, Jan Hansen, Joyce Walls, Sara Watne’s sisters, Hope and Lora, Laurel Lien, Caroline Riley, Lee Weiser’s father, Joseph Weiser, Bill Hillger, Sharon Morrow, and Susan (SK) Johnson.

Prayers for Comfort:

All those in hospice and their families.

Prayers for Those Who are Grieving:

- * Destiny, great-granddaughter of Roxie and Bill Hillger
- * The family and friends of Greg Thompson, former member, who died recently.
- * The Family and friends of Muza Habeck who died November 2, 2021
- * The family, especially Curt, and friends of Marybeth Stull. A memorial service was held on November 14.
- * The family and friends of Jean Urista who died on November 7, 2021.
- * Molly Reko and family in the death of her brother, Dr. Robert Wilson.
- * Nancy and John Dierauer and family in the death of Nancy’s mother, Marcella Nelson.
- * The family and friends of Dale Blomsness who died on November 15, 2021.
- * Susan and SK Johnson in the death of Susan’s brother, Jim.
- * Toni and Greg Locke and family in the death of Toni’s mother, LaRose Martin.

THANK YOU: CHRISTMAS CREW!

Thank you to all the musicians, liturgists, tech crew, ushers, and greeters who make a return to in-person Christmas Eve a tremendous success this year. Thank you for working together to enhance the Christmas experience for your church!

BE A “DIGITAL SUPERFAN” OF YOUR CHURCH!

Here are crucial ways to stay informed, be involved, and get invitational digitally:

Sign up or resubscribe to the church email list.



Get weekly news updates in the *eHeartline* announcements, a bulletin link and worship preview with *Worship Launchpad*, and updates on pandemic-related announcements, funerals and memorials. Send the emails to a friend if something in it would interest them. Subscribe or resubscribe in seconds at richfieldumc.org/email. Help your church go from 310 to 320 subscribers.

Engage your church on our Facebook page.



Interacting with [your church's Facebook content](#) puts it in front of new people. “Like,” comment, and share your church's content. “See First” in your News Feed and “Turn On” Notifications so you'll see fresh content. Help your church grow from 526 to 535 fans.

Engage your church on our YouTube channel.



Engage with [your church's YouTube Channel](#) to put our content in front of new people. “Subscribe” and “Ring the Bell” icon to receive Notifications when new videos come up or we go live. “Like” and “Share” the videos with friends. Help your church grow from 303 to 310 subscribers.

UPDATE:

VIDEO CONFERENCING / HYBRID MEETINGS

The church has completed setting up two video conferencing installations. There is a permanent installation in the Grace Room and an AV cart which is housed in the Heritage Room. Each are the type of same setup: a 65” Samsung 4K TV, a physically small yet powerful computer, and a Logitech camera and microphone system to enable teams and small groups to have hybrid meetings. This forward-thinking, future-focused tech upgrade is financed through the generosity of the Memorials Fund. Thanks be to God for all who contribute to this fund and the saints who are honored by such gifts. May this fund continue to grant the church new opportunities to reach new people!

CONTINUING OPEN GROUPS

Women Who Read (WWR)

1st Mondays of the Month

1:30-3:00 pm, online by Zoom

If you are a woman who enjoys good books and thoughtful discussion, then consider joining fellow readers for Women Who Read.

WWR will meet January 3rd to share book recommendations for future meetings. We did set our February book (February 7) to be *Hamnet* by Maggie O'Farrell.

To join by Zoom, email Fern WFalbertson@gmail.com.

Women's Bible Study

Tuesdays, 9:30-11:00 am

Currently online only by Zoom

You are invited to contact Molly, mollyreko@comcast.net or 612-270-4700, our Zoom coordinator, or Ruth Phelps, 952-929-1595, leader. There is plenty of food for thought in scripture, for as old as the scriptures are, they are alive with truth for these days. Try something new-this is a group of Women who will welcome you!

Men's Bible Study

Wednesdays, 9:00 am

In-person on campus in the Heritage Room or online by Zoom or phone

All men are welcome to read and discuss upcoming sermon scripture passages for its context then and its relevance now. This growing group continues to welcome new men to the table for a time to study the Bible and offer one another support.

Connect Online: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/95435276775>

Meeting ID: 954 3527 6775

Or call in: 312-626-6799 (standard rates may apply)



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Heartline

Keeping in touch with the heart of the
Richfield United Methodist Church faith community.

**Worship on Sundays
at 9:30 am**

⇒ **In-Person Worship
in the Sanctuary**

⇒ **Online Worship**
<http://youtube.com/richfieldumc>

⇒ **By touch tone phone at
1.888.650.5835**

*Please join your church in
praying the Breakthrough
Prayer daily at 8:35.*

OUR BREAKTHROUGH PRAYER

Loving God of all,
renew our hearts and minds.

Reveal your wildest dreams,
breakthrough to each of us.

Unite us in your vision,
equip us for your work.

Transform us by your song,
create our harmony.

May we embrace your future
and be your loving church.

Amen.

Richfield United Methodist Church

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Facebook: facebook.com/RichfieldUnitedMethodistChurch **Twitter:** twitter.com/RichfieldUMC